

In 1835 there was a Roman Catholic Church erected in the northeast part of the town. Since its erection, their number has greatly increased. There is now a large congregation steadily meeting in that house.

A Sabbath School Society, auxiliary to the American Sunday School Union, was organized in 1833. This society became very efficient and useful in establishing schools in different parts of the town. It continued for many years to elicit an increasing interest. We are much indebted to its early efforts for the elevated position this cause has to the present time occupied in the hearts of this community.

There was also a Tract Society organized in the same year. Much was done by this society, while its purposes were carried out in circulating religious tracts among the families of the township.

A Bible Society, auxiliary to the Wayne County Bible Society, was organized in 1839. Vigorous efforts were made, by appointing visitors in every school district in town, to raise funds and circulate the Scriptures without note or comment. The first officers of the society were William R. Stone, President, and Anson Chittenden, sen., Vice-President.

There were early efforts made in this town in the cause of temperance. The first society, called the "Mount Pleasant Temperance Society," was organized on the 9th of February, 1830.* Mr. Jacob Eaton was the first president of the society, and Mr. William R. Stone, secretary. Mr. Stone continued to be an efficient and able secretary of this society for

* See Appendix, No. 18.

twenty years. It was organized on the principles of abstinence from distilled spirits; but in 1837 the pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks was adopted. When organized, the society had nine members:*

In 1835 it had 240 members.

" 1840 " 384 "

" 1845 " 401 "

" 1850 " 550 "

The whole number of names enrolled to the present time is 610.

X. COMMON SCHOOLS.

Though Pennsylvania has been tardy in waking to the importance of Common Schools, many of the towns in this part of the State have not overlooked their value. Without aid from the State they have erected school-houses, and supported schools, even while in the infancy of their existence. The first school in this town was taught by Miss Lucy Stearns in the summer of 1794. It was held in Mr. Elijah Dix's log-house. She had twelve scholars, and received six shillings a-week as her wages. The first male teacher that ever taught in this township was Mr. John Tyler. He taught in the winter of 1799 and 1800. His school was in a log building which had been erected and occupied by Mr. Geer, but which then having no family in it, was used for the school. This was the only school in town, and num-

* See Appendix, No. 18.